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In ordinary minesweeping, the sea area is swept in parallel strips. Depending on the extent of mining, the importance of the sea area and the possibility that counter-fitted mines, i.e. mines which explode only after being fused a number of times, have been laid, the sea area is swept again on strips differing 90 degrees and, if deemed necessary, sweeping runs are repeated several times to check the sea area. Uniform checking of all parts of the sea area depends on continual and careful position finding.

A 100 percent freedom from mines must be the goal in much frequented coastal waters and navigable channels. However, the disturbing influence of currents results in considerable deviation from scheduled courses making freedom from mines of the swept sea area a serious problem. Seacharts of the largest scale possible must be available or be specially prepared to find out deviations from the courses and ascertain the existence of mined spots which may have been left unswept. Since large-scale charts cover only small areas of the sea, most of the landmarks required for taking bearings lie outside the particular sheet of the chart. Because of the rapid change of angle of objects measured nearby, only rapid position finding methods based on the measuring of angles will insure the required accuracy. These requirements will be met by the method described. The arc of the circle through two objects and the point of observation is the locus of all points of which two points appear under the same angle. These circles which belong to definite angles of two objects are entered on the chart, making it possible, with two circular systems based on three landmarks, thus to obtain a high degree of accuracy.

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- (2) [redacted] in future, hydrographic surveys will be carried out only by surveying specialists rather than nautical specialists.
- (3) The checking of sea marks previously was under the waterway subdistrict offices.
- (4) The compasses had been supplied by the VEB Askania. As no new compasses were received by the SHD in Stralsund, no terrestrial magnetic surveys were possible in the meantime.
- (5) For report on the Soviet surveying method, see Annex.

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